

Message Text

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61/45

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 AF-10 EA-11 NEA-14

RSC-01 DRC-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 FRB-03 OMB-01

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8042

INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

USUN NEW YORK 988

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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DEPT PASS TREASURY FOR BRADFIELD

E O R R E C T E D C O P Y FOR PASSING INSTRUCTIONS

.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN UNCTAD

SUBJ: CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES

1. AFTER FOUR DIFFICULT SESSIONS OVER TWO-YEAR PERIOD, UNCTAD WORKING GROUP ENDEAVORING TO DRAFT A CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES HAS REACHED WHAT APPEARS TO BE ITS FINAL CRITICAL STAGE. A CONTACT GROUP OF 13 STATES MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP IS MEETING THIS WEEK IN GENEVA IN WHAT IS SUPPOSED TO BE A SUPREME EFFORT TO ACHIEVE A COMPROMISE ON THE HARD, DISAGREED PROBLEMS OF THE CHARTER, ESPECIALLY NATIONALIZATION OF FOREIGN PROPERTY AND TREATMENT OF MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS.

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2. CONTACT GROUP HAS AGREED TO TAKE AS ITS BASIS OF NEGOTIATION THE

FORMULA ON THESE LATTER QUESTIONS PROPOSED AT LAST SESSION OF WORKING GROUP IN MEXICO CITY BY AMBASSADOR BRILLANTES OF THE PHILIPPINES. IT PROPOSES, FOR ARTICLE 2, PARA. 1(D) OF CHARTER THAT "EACH STATE HAS THE RIGHT TO NATIONALIZE, APPROPRIATE OR REQUISITION PROPERTY, PROVIDED THAT IN THE CASE OF FOREIGN PROPERTY JSUT COMPENSATION SHALL BE PAID IN THE LIGHT OF ALL RELEVANT CIRCUMSTANCES".

3. THE USG, EC, JAPAN, CANADA AND AUSTRALIA AS WELL AS OTHER DEVELOPED COUNTRIES ARE WILLING TO ACCEPT THIS BRILLANTES FORMULA, BY WAY OF COMPROMISE. IT IS NOT "PROMPT, ADEQUATE AND EFFECTIVE COMPENSATION". IT IS NOT EVEN, AS UNGA RESOLUTION 1803 (XXII) PROVIDES, "APPROPRIATE COMPENSATIONIN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL LAW". BUT IT IS MINIMALLY ACCEPTABLE, AND ACCORDINGLY WEST IS NOT PRESSING ITS PREFERRED RENDERINGS.

4. EGYPT AND MEXICO, AS WELL AS PHILIPPINES, HAVE ALSO ANNOUNCED IN CURRENT MEETINGS THAT THEY ARE PREPARED TO ACCEPT THE BRILLANTES FORMULA.

5. ONLY INDIA AMONG GROUP OF 77 SO FAR HAS ANNOUNCED ITS OPPOSITION. WHILE OTHER MEMBERS OF GROUP OF 77, AND COMMUNIST COUNTRIES, CERTAINLY PREFER RENDERING SUCH AS INDIA PURPOSES, THERE SEEMS TO BE A FAIR CHANCE OF REACHING AGREEMENT ON THE BRILLANTES FORMULA IF INDIA WOULD CEASE AND DESIST. TODAY, HOWEVER, I.S. CHADA, INDIAN REPRESENTATIVE TO UNCTAD, REINTRODUCED AND INSISTENTLY MAINTAINED FORMULA THAT "APPROPRIATE COMPENSATION SHALL BE PAID IN ACCORDANCE WITH DOMESTIC LAW". RESULT IS THAT WHOLE PROSPECT OF REACHING AGREEMENT ON A CHARTER IS IMPERILLED, FOR WEST HAS MADE IT CLEAR THAT IT CAN NO MORE ACCEPT ANY SUCH EXTREME FORMULATION THAN CAN LDC'S ACCEPT "PROMPT, ADEQUATE AND EFFECTIVE".

6. MEXICAN (AMBASSADOR CASTANEDA) AND EGYPTIAN (AMBASSADOR EL ERIAN) REPRESENTATIVES HAVE SAID TO USDEL, AS HAVE OTHER SOURCES, THAT CHADHA IS THE MOST DIFFICULT BARRIER IN THE GROUP OF 77 TO ACCEPTING A GENUINE COMPROMISE ON LINES OF BRILLANTES DRAFT, ON THIS AND SEVERAL OTHER ISSUES. THEY WONDER WHETHER HIS APPROACH IS PERSONAL RATHER THAN CONSIDERED VIEW OF GOI.

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7. ACCORDINGLY USDEL REQUESTS EMBASSY DELHI AND/OR DEPT., IF DEPT. AGREES, IMMEDIATELY TO MAKE APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATIONS TO GOI. FOLLWING ARE AMONG POINTS THAT MIGHT BE MADE, THOUGH ALL NEED NOT BE:

A. IT IS MOST DESIRABLE THAT UNAMITY BE REACHED ON CHARTER;

B. INDIAN PROPOSALS, OF WHICH THAT QUOTED IS OUTSTANDING

EXAMPLE, IF MAINTAINED, WILL ENSURE LACK OF UNAMITY;

C. WHY DOES INDIA OBDURATELY MAINTAIN SO EXTREME

A STAND ON NATIONALIZATION IN UN FORA WHEN ITS OWN RECORD ON
NATIONALIZATION AND PAYMENT OF JUST COMPENSATION IS GOOD AND
WHEN IT SEEKS FOREIGN INVESTMENT?

D. IF MEMBERS OF THE GROUP OF 77 SUCH AS EGYPT, MEXICO

AND THE PHILIPPINES CAN ACCEPT THE BRILLANTES FORMULA, WHY CANNOT
INDIA?

E. DOES INDIA WISH TO ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY OF SEEMING

TO BE THE WRECKER OF PROSPECTS OF CONSENSUS ON THE CHARTER?

F. THE STAND OF INDIA AS CHADHA EXPOUSES IT, WHICH IS

CLOSELY WATCHED BY INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND OTHER
BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES, COULD GIVE THE MISIMPRESSION THAT INDIA
OPPOSES AND WILL MALTREAT FOREIGN INVESTMENT, WITH CONSEQUENT
PREJUDICE TO INDIA'S PROSPECTS FOR ATTRACTING FOREIGN CAPITAL.

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